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Provision for Government aircraft in the Budget estimates.

* 373 *Q.*—SRI V. V. RAMASAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) why a provision of Rs. 10,000 was made in the Budget Estimate for 1952–53 for "Government Aircraft" under Demand IX and whether it has any relationship to 'Hanuman'; and

(*b*) if so, for what purposes the amount granted by the House is proposed to be spent?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" (*a*) & (*b*) The provision was intended to meet the following items of expenditure connected with the Government Aircraft 'Hanuman—VT-CTG':—

	Per annum RS.
(i) Hangar rent as Rs. 1,000 per quarter	4,000
(ii) Insurance charges covering ground risks only.	5,000
(iii) Routine maintenance charges (viz., Aviation oil and other maintenance charges)	1,000
	10,000

The Government Aircraft having been given as a free gift to the Defence Ministry of the Government of India on 15th March 1952, there will be no expenditure in the current year except the payment of some arrears relating to the period before the disposal of the aircraft to the Government of India. The budget appropriation will be modified as usual towards the end of the year with reference to actual expenditure."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know the reason for giving away this aircraft to the Defence Department and whether it was useless or air-worthy?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" The plane was not put to much use. With the development of commercial aircrafts, there was no necessity for this. Further, as the offers were not very advantageous when it was put for sale, the Government thought it best to give it as a free gift."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM:—" May I know whether that 'Hanuman' was in good order when it was given to the Defence Department?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" I should like to have notice, Sir."

SRI CHANDRA RAMALINGIAH:—" ఇది అసలు మొదట ఎంతకు కొన్నారండీ ?"

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THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" 2,57,680 rupees, Sir."

SRI V. V. RAMASAMI :—" May I know whether the 'Hanuman' is now flying and if so, where? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" It is not flying with the Madras Government."

Alleged smuggling of rice from the southern borders of Malabar.

* 374 *Q.*—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have received complaints that large-scale smuggling of rice is going on from southern borders of Malabar to Travancore-Cochin State; and that the price of rice has gone up in Malabar from Rs. 42 to Rs. 55 per bag?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" In view of the fact that rice is decontrolled in Malabar and rice is still under control in Travancore-Cochin and there is a great probability of large-scale smuggling of rice into Travancore-Cochin State from Malabar, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of taking adequate precautionary measures? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Several precautionary measures have already been taken and the Collector's report is, he is satisfied, that there is no large scale smuggling into Travancore-Cochin State."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware that the cost of rice in Malabar has gone up after decontrol and if so, the reasons for that? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, if a general question regarding the entire district of Malabar is put, I am not able to answer. It is true that in certain parts, the cost of rice has gone up and the reason for the price going up . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" It has nothing to do with the present question. Let us pass on to the next question."

Cultivation of lands by Harijans under the Grow More Food Scheme in Krishna district.

* 375 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Harijans and other agricultural labourers of Bommuluru of Nuzvid taluk (Krishna district) applied to the Collector of Krishna for permission to cultivate the lands in Guravarajugunta, Sundaravarigunta and Kothacheruvu of Bommuluru village under Grow More Food Campaign; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Collector took in the matter?